

CHAPTER

11

SECTION 1

Note Taking Study Guide

EARLY CIVILIZATIONS OF AFRICA

Focus Question: How did geography and natural resources affect the development of early societies throughout Africa?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following outline to record the important effects caused by Africa's geography and natural resources. Some items have been completed for you.

I. The influence of geography**A. Geographic patterns**

1. Vegetation affects where and how people live.
2. _____

3. Great Rift Valley and Mediterranean and Red seas promote travel and trade.

B. Resources spur trade

1. _____

2. Camels can cross vast deserts.

II. People and Ideas Migrate**A. The Sahara dries out**

1. Neolithic farmers cultivate the Nile Valley.
2. Farming spreads, climate change occurs.
3. _____

4. _____

5. People are forced to find new areas to live.

B. The Bantu migrations

1. _____

2. Their language, based on a root language called Bantu, gives this movement its name.

(Outline continues on the next page.)

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(Continued from page 98)

III. Nubia Flourishes Along the Nile

A. Rivals Egypt for control of region

B. _____

C. Nubian capital moves to Meröe

1. _____

2. Meröe rich in resources, such as iron ore and timber; makes it possible to produce iron tools and weaponry.

IV. _____

A. African Civilizations have strong ties to regions across the Mediterranean and Red seas.

B. _____

C. After Rome defeats Carthage in Third Punic War, uses farmlands to feed armies.

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SECTION 1**Section Summary****EARLY CIVILIZATIONS OF AFRICA****READING CHECK**

What natural resources helped Nubians manufacture tools and weapons?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

Find the word *utilized* in the underlined sentence. What do you think it means? Think about how the word is used. You can see that it is a verb, which describes an action. What action is being described? Who is doing what? Use the answers to these questions to help you write a definition of *utilized*.

READING SKILL**Identify Causes and Effects**

Identify one effect of each of the following causes:

Rome conquered Carthage.

Muslim Arabs took North Africa.

In Africa there are grassy plains, called **savannas**, and the **Sahara**, the largest desert in the world. These vegetation zones influenced how people lived. Rivers with **cataracts**, or waterfalls, limited travel. On the other hand, an interior valley and the Mediterranean and Red seas provided trade routes. By A.D. 200, camel caravans moved across the Sahara.

Before 2500 B.C., the Sahara supported farming. After a climate change, however, the process of **desertification** slowly changed the land to a vast desert. People had to move to find new farmland. Between 1000 B.C. and A.D. 1000, West African speakers of the **Bantu** languages migrated south and east. These Bantu migrations influenced modern languages. The Bantu people also brought skills and blended with other cultures.

About 2700 B.C. **Nubia**, or Kush, developed on the upper Nile. Egypt controlled Nubia for about 500 years, beginning in 1500 B.C. As a result, Nubians adapted many Egyptian traditions.

Forced to move by Assyrian invaders, Nubians established a new capital at **Meroë** around 500 B.C. From there, the Nubians eventually controlled trade routes. Meroë was rich in iron ore and timber. The Nubians used these resources to make iron tools and weapons, improving their ability to defend themselves. Still, about A.D. 350, invaders from the southern kingdom of Axum conquered Nubia.

On the Mediterranean, the Phoenician settlement of Carthage emerged as a North African power. It dominated trade in the western Mediterranean from 800 B.C. to 146 B.C. At the end of the Third Punic War, however, Rome conquered Carthage. The Romans then utilized North Africa's farmlands to provide grain for their armies. They also built roads, dams, and cities. Later Romans brought Christianity to the region.

Muslim Arabs took control of North Africa in the 690s. Arabic became the dominant language, and Muslim civilization grew. Over time, Islam replaced Christianity, spreading to West Africa through traders.

Review Questions

1. How did the Mediterranean and Red seas affect early Africa?

2. What effects did the Bantu migrations have?

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SECTION 2
Note Taking Study Guide
KINGDOMS OF WEST AFRICA

Focus Question: How did the kingdoms of West Africa develop and prosper?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following flowchart to record causes and effects related to the development of West African kingdoms. Some items have been completed for you.

Causes	Event	Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People become farmers. • Gold and salt are widely available. • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food surplus exists. • One product is traded for another. • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade develops between villages. • Cities develop along trade routes. • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____

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SECTION 2

Section Summary

KINGDOMS OF WEST AFRICA

READING CHECK

What caused Songhai's decline?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

Find the word *administered* in the underlined sentence. What does the word mean? It is related to the word *administration*, which means, "a group that directs a government or enterprise, like a school." Use this word-family clue to help you write a definition of *administered*.

READING SKILL

Identify Causes and Effects

Identify one effect of Askia Muhammad's rule in Songhai.

When early farmers in West Africa began to produce **surplus**, or extra, food, they traded it for goods from other villages. Eventually, trade routes developed that connected Africa with Asia and Europe. Cities grew near popular routes. Salt was a valuable product, or **commodity**, along with gold. Gold was common in West Africa, and salt was plentiful in the Sahara. People needed salt to stay healthy and preserve food and because of this, a trader might exchange one pound of salt for one pound of gold.

The ancient kingdom of **Ghana** developed in West Africa around 800 A.D. It became a center of trade, and the king controlled the salt and gold trade. The king also administered justice, kept the peace, and ran the government in other ways. Ghana was prosperous, and Muslims moved there from the north. They served as government officials and introduced new ideas. In time, however, Ghana was swallowed up by a new power, the West African kingdom of **Mali**.

About 1235, **Sundiata** defeated his enemies and established the empire of Mali. About 1312, **Mansa Musa**, Mali's greatest ruler, came to power. He improved the justice system and supported religious tolerance. He created ties with Muslim states during his pilgrimage to Mecca. He also brought back Islamic scholars to provide religious teaching.

After Mali weakened, the kingdom of **Songhai** developed in West Africa. After 1492, Emperor Askia Muhammad established a Muslim dynasty there. He expanded the territory and improved the government. Later, internal conflicts weakened Songhai, which was conquered by Morocco in about 1591.

Some smaller societies prospered in West Africa from A.D. 500 to 1500. Benin arose in the rain forests of the Guinea coast in the 1300s. At about the same time, the Hausa built clay-walled cities. Hausa artisans produced goods and traded with Arab merchants. Each Hausa city had a ruler who was often a woman.

Review Questions

1. Which two trade goods were important to early West African kingdoms?

2. What was unique about the Hausa's rulers?

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SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide

KINGDOMS AND TRADING STATES OF EAST AFRICA

Focus Question: What influence did religion and trade have on the development of East Africa?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following flowchart to record the effects of trade on East African societies. Some items have been completed for you.

Effects of Trade on East African Societies		Great Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade network brings wealth. • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____
		Coastal City-States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swahili language is developed. • Local rulers build strong, independent city-states. • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____
		Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity helps establish a distinct culture.
		Axum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity is brought to region. • Trade brings wealth. • _____ • _____ • _____

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SECTION 3**Section Summary****KINGDOMS AND TRADING STATES OF EAST AFRICA****READING CHECK**

Who was King Lalibela?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

Find the word *unifying* in the underlined sentence. What does *unifying* mean? Its prefix *uni-* means “one.” Use this clue to help you write a definition of *unifying*.

READING SKILL

Understand Effects What effect did the blending of African and Arab cultures have on language and culture in East Africa?

After 100 B.C., the kingdom of Axum spread from the Ethiopian highlands to the Red Sea coast. By about A.D. 400, Axum controlled a rich trade network. A key part of this was the port of **Adulis**. Axum’s trade routes connected Africa, India, and the Mediterranean. As a result, traders from other regions brought unique cultural influences, along with goods, to Axum.

In the 300s, Christianity became Axum’s official religion. At first, Christianity strengthened trade between Axum and other Christian countries. However, as Islam spread across North Africa in the 600s, Axum became isolated and slowly lost power.

Axum’s legacy lived on in a portion of present-day **Ethiopia**. There, Christianity and descendants of the Axumites survived for centuries. This was due in part to the unifying influence of Christianity. This gave Ethiopia a single, unique identity among Muslim neighbors. Ethiopia developed a distinct culture. For example, under **King Lalibela** in the 1200s, eleven remarkable churches were carved into the solid rock of mountains.

After Axum declined, Muslim communities arose along the East African coast. They were set up by Arabs and Persians trading with Asia. By the 600s, ships regularly sailed to India and back. Trade goods from Africa, Southeast Asia, and China helped the East African cities grow wealthy. Relations between cities were generally peaceful. By the 1000s, a blending of African, Asian, and Arab influences combined to create a new language and culture, both called **Swahili**.

South and inland from the coastal cities was **Great Zimbabwe**, the capital city of the Zimbabwe empire. The empire reached its height around 1300. There, people mined gold and traded goods across the Indian Ocean. Little is known about Great Zimbabwe’s government. Artifacts show that its artisans were skilled jewelry makers and weavers. By the 1500s, Zimbabwe was in decline. Later, Portuguese traders tried, but failed, to find the former empire’s source of gold.

Review Questions

1. How did Christianity affect Axum?

2. What happened after Zimbabwe’s decline?

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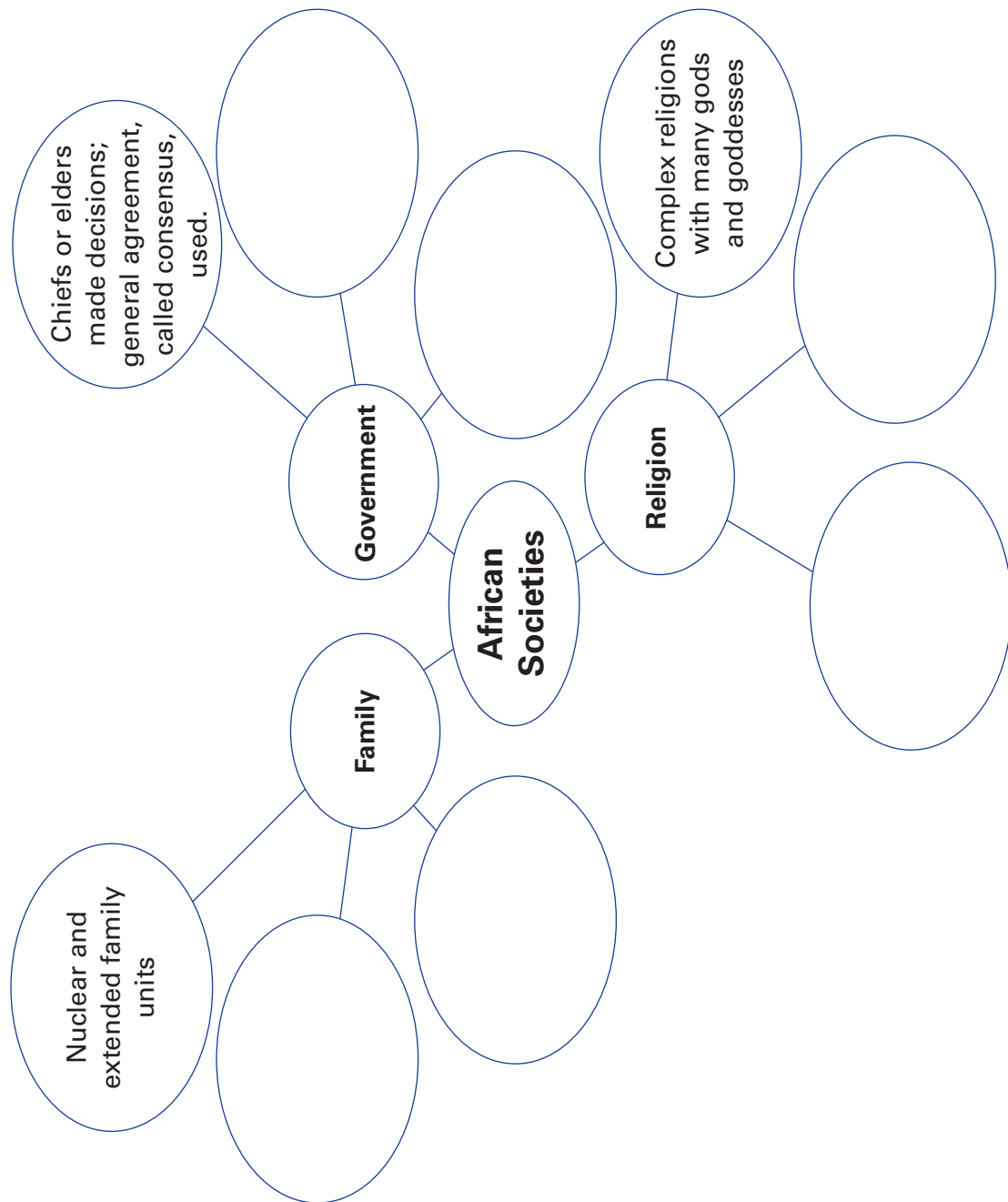
SECTION 4

Note Taking Study Guide

SOCIETIES IN MEDIEVAL AFRICA

Focus Question: What factors influenced the development of societies in Africa?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following concept web to record the factors that influenced the development of African societies. Some items have been completed for you.



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SECTION 4**Section Summary****SOCIETIES IN MEDIEVAL AFRICA****READING CHECK**

How did the Kongo kings rule their lands?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

Find the word *complex* in the underlined sentence. What does it mean? Look for clues to its meaning in the same sentence and in the sentences that follow. For example, the word *varied* and the phrase *involving many gods, goddesses, rituals, and ceremonies* provide clues that can help you figure out the word's meaning. Use these context clues to help you write a definition of *complex*.

READING SKILL**Recognize Multiple Causes**

What encouraged a sense of community and common values?

Some people in medieval Africa lived with an extended family of several generations. Others lived within a **nuclear family** of one set of parents and their children. Some families were **patrilineal**, passing inheritances through the father's side. Others passed property down on the mother's side and so were **matrilineal**. A **lineage** was a group of families who shared a common ancestor. A clan was made up of several lineages with one, often legendary, ancestor. Membership in a kin group gave people a sense of belonging.

In small societies, decisions might be made by **consensus**, or general agreement. The decisions followed open discussions where the opinions of elders carried the most weight. Women sometimes took strong roles, acting as peacemakers.

In large empires, villagers had to pay taxes, provide soldiers, and follow orders from the king at a distant court. However, in Kongo, a kingdom in central Africa around A.D. 1500, the king had limited powers. There, areas were governed by appointed officials. However, each village had its own chiefs. Soldiers were only called up in time of need.

Medieval African religions were varied and complex, involving many gods, goddesses, rituals, and ceremonies. Many people believed in one supreme being. Others honored the spirits of ancestors. By A.D. 1000, Christianity and Islam had become popular and absorbed many local practices and beliefs.

The arts in Africa date back 4,000 years to the Egyptian pyramids. Some art had special meaning, such as gold-and-blue kente cloth, a West African textile. Only rulers and wealthy people could wear it. Cloths, jugs, bowls, and jewelry might be decorative or serve religious or ceremonial purposes.

Written histories from Africa describe laws, religion, and society. In Muslim regions, Arabic was a common written language. In West Africa, **griots**, or professional storytellers, recited ancient folktales, stories, and oral histories. These encouraged a sense of community and common values.

Review Questions

1. What are patrilineal and matrilineal families?

2. Who were griots?
